

# Livonia Family YMCA

# Indian Guides

# Smoke Signals



October 2002

Volume 34 Issue 2



## Federation Chief Report

Hello to all Big and Little Braves,

What a wonderful campout at Camp Nissokonee. I am sure that you must have had as much fun as my boys and I did. Congratulations to all of the new inductees. It was great to see so many new faces. A special thank you to Tim Collins and Ed Snow for doing a fantastic job on the campout. The water balloon sling shots were a great idea. (Thanks to Mrs. Snow for sewing the slings.) Our Sachem, Chris Gurnee, did a fine job of cooking on Friday night. My son is still wondering what happened to the lobster that you advertised for Friday, and the other is wondering about the filet mignon. Maybe next time . . .

As a thank you for being a Nation or Federation Officer, the YMCA has offered a \$50.00 credit to be used toward a campout or program membership. In prior years we have had some difficulty in

Continued on page 2

## Upcoming Events

Holiday Parade  
Sat. Nov. 23  
8:30am



Winter Fun Night @ Livonia Y  
(New!)  
Sat. Dec 14th  
7-10pm



*Don't forget to get your fund raiser plans and/or money into the Assistant Federation Chief Brian Bussa!*

## Attachments in this issue:

- Annual Calendar

Look us up on the Web! Find previous issues, maps to events, feather award descriptions, a Six Aims poster and attendance sheets to fill in and receive last year's feather awards.

<http://lyig.tripod.com>

## Federation Chief Report — Continued

filling the officer positions. A financial perk may help to keep interest in stepping up to lend an extra hand in the running of this program. I would like to thank the Director of the Livonia YMCA, Mr. Steve Peterson, for this show of support. I would also like to thank our current officers for the work they have done already this year.

On to the rest of the happenings for our Indian Guides. The Holiday Parade is scheduled for November 23, 2002. The theme for the parade is "Celebration of Freedom." If you are interested in building any type of float, we must let Rick Dunn know so that he can send the information to the parade committee by October 30, 2002.

Our next Fun Night will be Saturday, December 14 at the YMCA. We still need a Nation to host this event for us.

We should all be signed up for the Bottle and Can Drive and/or the Candy Fundraiser. Please contact Brian Bussa at (734) 421-9206--home, or (313) 594-3061--work.

I hope that everyone is enjoying the year so far. We are. Don't forget that the Indian Head will be passed from person to person at the campouts for the son with the funniest story about their Dad for that weekend. Congratulations to Mr. Munyan for winning at the Fall Campout.

Pals Forever,

Big Brown Grizzly, Little Brown Grizzly, Little Running Bear  
David Ryktarsyk



## Sachem Report

Boy-oh-Boy . . . another fine campout! Special thanks to Tim Collins, and Ed Snow for putting some extra effort into a weekend. Who is taking credit for the weather? Once we dried out our sleeping bags, we were in great shape. The accommodations were superb! I love parking closer to the cabins, and we don't have to lug the stuff halfway through the woods. Mrs. Brave Eagle will be VERY excited to see the water balloon slingshots in action at home!

The Induction Ceremony was great! With . . . how many? . . . maybe fifteen new inductees and an entire new tribe . . . the Indian Guide program is as strong as ever. I'm certain each one of us remembers the first time we knelt before our son and had the feather put in our headband! What a trip!

By the time you read this, we will already have enjoyed the Fun Night. I'm certain it will be a good time.

Please contact Brian Bussa and let him know about your plans for the fundraiser. He is working very hard trying to tie everything together. It's not an easy job, and simply making a phone call to him to let him know your plans will make it so much easier.

Pals Forever with my Sons...

Brave Eagle, Brave Sky, Brave Mountain, Brave Night  
Chris Gurnee



## Assistant Federation Chief Report—A Busy Fall For All

Greetings Guides,

What a busy couple of weeks we have had. First the Buffalo Nation's Bike Rally. The weather was perfect, food great, and company exceptional. All trails lead to a fun time by all. Then there was the Campout. Could it have been a better campout? The weather was again nice, the fishing was exciting for both the big and little braves alike and a few lucky ones got to see a pair of bald eagles circling overhead on Saturday. The day ended with the water balloon-launching contest that brought smiles to everyone. A big thanks goes to the Tomahawk Nation for a great weekend.

Hope everyone has been having good luck selling candy for the fundraiser. There are still a few of you out there that haven't picked up your candy that you have ordered. We also have two mix boxes left if anyone wants extra to sell or didn't get an order in earlier. Please try to pick it up this week so that you have time to sell it before the Halloween candy is everywhere. Also, prompt payment would be appreciated.

Looking forward to seeing everyone this weekend at the fall fun night. Golden Fox and Gray Wolf are looking forward to playing on the yellow submarine and all the other activities that the Y has to offer. See you all there.

Pals forever,

Brian Bussa  
Silver Fox, Golden Fox, and Gray Wolf

The Huron Tribe shows off their winning slingshot technique at the Fall Campout at Camp Nissikone!





## Medicine Man Report

Greetings,

O Great Spirit of the east, the land of the rising sun, who holds in your right hand the years of our lives and in your left the opportunities of each day. Brace us that we may not neglect our gifts nor lose in laziness the hopes of each day and the hopes of each year.

A huge thanks to the Tomahawk Chiefs Tim Collins and Ed Snow for hosting the fall campout. It was a GREAT time! The balloon slingshots were a lot of fun.

I would like to welcome one new tribe and a few new members to this awesome organization of ours.

The new Crow tribe of the Lance Nation:

Rob Cossin & his son  
Frank Galeana & his son  
Shawn Kenyon & his son  
Michael Maj & his son  
Ron Steele & his son  
Scott Worth & his son

Aztec tribe:

Dariusz Nisenbaum & his two sons  
Keith Donaldson & his two sons

Teton tribe:

Eric Cholack & his son  
Christopher Ferrara & his three sons

Shawnee tribe:

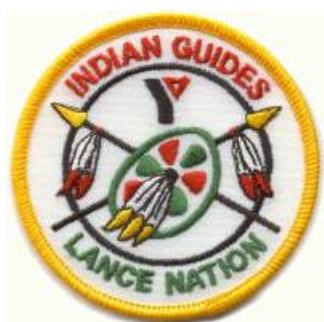
Andy Glowacz & his son  
Ken Fister & his son

Welcome to the Livonia Federation of Indian Guides. You'll never regret joining!

It was awesome to see so many new little faces running around. It took me back to when Hawkeye & I joined. It occurred to me that we are starting our seventh season. The moons pass too quickly, and my little brave is becoming a young man. It seems like yesterday that we joined. I love the time that Hawkeye and I spend together.

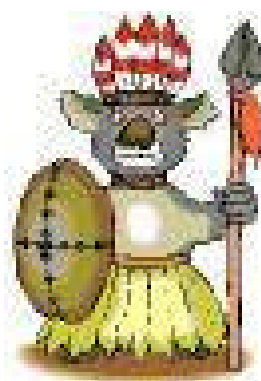
Pals Forever,

Powhatan & Hawkeye  
Rick Hassell



## Lance Nation Chief's Report

Pull! Pull! Pull! Stumble, Fall, Roll, Giggle & Laugh. And do it again! That was the Kodak moment witnessed by all who watched five of our newest and littlest Crow Tribe braves at Camp Nissokone attempt to launch their water balloons in the balloon-launching contest last Saturday. Many thanks to the Tomahawk Nation for a superb campout.



The Lance Nation was honored to induct a new tribe into our nation, the Crow tribe. The five big and little braves who made the campout induction were: Shawn Kenyon and his son (*Big Buck & Black Bat*), Rob Cossin and his son (*Big Chow & Tickle Tiger*), Mike Maj and his son (*Silver Fox & Golden Fox*), Scott Worth and his son (*Walking Stone & Running Stone*), and Frank Galeana and his son (*Flying Eagle & Soaring Hawk*). Frank and his son will be the Crow Chiefs this year; Rob and his son, the Scouts. There are smoke signals that tell us more members joining the Crow tribe - Ron Steele and his son. A warm Welcome & Congratulations to the Crow.

The Lance nation membership grew with new members to the Teton tribe. Chris Ferrara and his three sons (*Screaming Eagle, Mighty Cheetah, Gliding Eagle, and Running Cheetah*) were inducted at Camp Nissokone. Eric Cholack and his son are also new Teton braves.

Congratulations to all the big and little braves of the Teton tribe who won the bag of gold wampum (chocolate coins) for building the finest sand castle at the campout.

New chiefs at the Mohawk tribe are Michael Donnermeyer and his son; at the Tetons, Carl Buckley and his son.

The Mohawks, Crow and Tetons look forward to seeing all the braves at our upcoming events - Fun Nights, Thanksgiving Parade and Winter Campout.

Pals Forever,  
Raging Bull and Running Wind

### Child's Commandments Corner

#### Commandment No. 2

**My eyes have not seen the world as you have. Please let me explore safely. Don't restrict me unnecessarily.**

**Watch each issue of Smoke Signals for more!**



## Cayuga Tribal Report of the Falling Leaf Moon



The hours of Sunday morning on campout weekends that are less than Talking Rock's ripe age of six have afforded me the unprecedented opportunity to think about the Cayuga Tribal report. This is because Talking Rock, like a good Pokeman trainer, has graciously chosen me to assist in his call to nature in unfamiliar surroundings after which excitement I am left sleepless the rest of the star filled morning. In the Cayuga tribe we now call this natural process "Going to Germany" because of its inherent association with "You're a peein" (European) heritage, as Rapid River pointed out to us this weekend. This is where the flow of this next Cayuga Tribal report has its origin.

The Cayuga dads met on an evening when the Hunting Moon was at its best in search of ideas to make this the best year in Cayuga Tribal history. We sought inspiration from each other, and savored that inspiration over a pitcher whose contents created amber waves of grain in the pouring, as Wild Fish so eloquently noted. And so we placed the golden touch on our plans for a really great year and are ready to rock!

The Fall Campout is a weekend of transformations. The leaves are starting to turn and when you hop in the car to take off with the boys we all transform too. I transform from the dad who so often has to be the enforcer in the household to the dad who the boys can actually have a fun time with. The boys seem to transform from skilled whiners to listeners who want to have some fun. It's a weekend where real dads abound, where you see Father and son pairs, sometime threesomes, and in one case a self-proclaimed gang. You look around and realize that these are all dads who care, a place where a young voice shouts "Dad!" and all adult heads turn. It is that three-letter word that these men are about. You see it in the time they take to help out with the fishing lines, make the water balloons sail above the trees, make a voyageur canoe trip an adventure of discovery, or volunteer as a nation officer to make the whole thing possible. It's the taking time to learn about preserving our environment, believing that all the small differences we make add to the sum total of the large difference that educated and aware people make, because our environment is one thing that we leave to our young braves that will be with them the rest of their lives. We don't want nature to be history. We want it to be there for our sons to take their sons on Indian Guide campouts.

I mark my running socks so that I get them back from the washing machine in my laundry pile. Each time I pull them on I get a reminder of what I'm all about as I see the "dad" marking move into place on top of my foot. It is great to be a part of a group of people who take the dad word seriously. Normally the shoe covers up the markings but on my newest pair of socks I inadvertently put the marking high enough so that when I put the shoe on "da" sticks out like a soar thumb. When we all go camping it's great to see you all slipping that running shoe on and have your "da" sticking out like a soar thumb. It may not be the complete word but there's no trouble figuring out what the last letter is.

Pals Forever.

Respectfully submitted,

Running Deer, Straight Arrow, Talking Rock